

Local Artists,  
p.12



Wangari Maathai  
film, p.12

## Local School Music Programs Adapt to Virtual Instruction

by Matthew Arbach

Music is one area where being together in person is an integral part, as performers connect to each other and an audience. Music teachers at Greenbelt Middle School (GMS) and Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) have endeavored, like all teachers and students dealing with the social restrictions of the pandemic, to keep their programs alive and stimulating through new and creative approaches. While some things have been lost due to isolation, others things have been discovered and even improved upon in unexpected ways.

According to Darelynn Fung, the band teacher at GMS, “the biggest challenge for me has

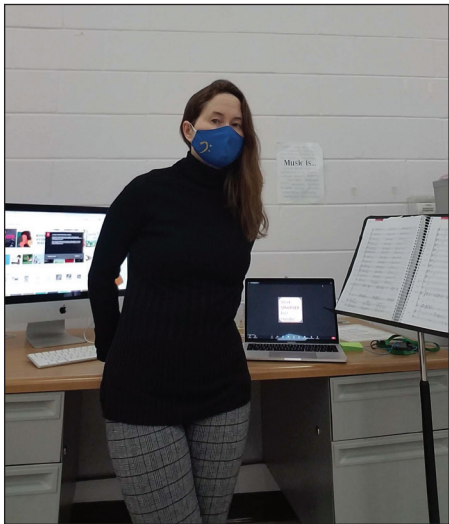


PHOTO COURTESY DARELYNN FUNG

Greenbelt Middle School band director Darelynn Fung in her classroom

been connecting with the students. They are coming to class from so many different

See **SCHOOLS**, page 6

## Greenbelt Museum Collects Covid-19 Memories, Crafts

by Julie Rapp

How has the pandemic impacted your life? How do we explain to future generations how Greenbelt citizens dealt with this life-changing event? The Greenbelt Museum would like to capture for future generations what it was like to survive healthwise, emotionally, socially and economically during the pandemic to demonstrate the resilience of Greenbelt citizens. The Greenbelt Museum is a history museum of “everyday working people,” according to Megan Searing Young, the museum’s director. Young would like to hear from Greenbelters from all racial and ethnic

backgrounds, the young and old alike, working or non-working, in an effort to share their stories and experiences. How did individuals and families manage Covid-era developments such as home-schooling, telecommuting, Zoom calls for business and social interactions or grocery shopping at stores where there were shortages of hand sanitizer, toilet paper and cleaning supplies? How did residents cope with the shutdown and quarantine and the restrictions imposed on us for socializing?

Young spoke of the many innovative ways Greenbelt institutions and residents have shown

their adaptability during these difficult times. Greenbelt Recreation successfully moved to virtual classes on short notice. The Old Greenbelt Theatre creatively developed ways to maintain the engagement of its patrons by offering outdoor movie nights and snacks that could be ordered online for pick-up. In-person holiday celebrations were cancelled, so the museum placed lighted decorations in the garden-side window of the museum house for walkers to view at night. A summer activity grab-and-go event for kids at Springhill Lake Elementary School was another

See **MUSEUM**, page 11

## County to Register Group 1C For Covid-19 Vaccinations

by Cathie Meetre

*Este artículo está disponible en español en nuestra página web [www.greenbeltnewsreview.com](http://www.greenbeltnewsreview.com).*

In a Covid-19 update issued Monday, March 15, County Executive Angela Alsobrooks announced that the county was inviting pre-registration to those eligible in Phase 1C. She also urges those in Phase 1B who have not yet been immunized to pre-register. Phase 1C includes adults 65 to 74 years of age and also several categories of those receiving hospital in-or-out-patient medical care, and workers who are both essential and at high risk of exposure, including

grocery store and postal service workers. A complete list of eligible groups of people in Phase 1C is available on the State of Maryland Covid-19 information site at [coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/vaccine#access](https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/vaccine#access).

Phase 1C has been eligible to receive vaccines since mid-February by state mandate, but the health department has focused on 1A and 1B and the shots for which pre-registration is invited are only those dispensed by the Prince George’s County Health Department. The pre-registration form can be found at

See **VACCINE**, page 9

## Council Discusses Proposed Changes To Elections, Foreclosure Moratorium

by Diane Oberg

### Council Vacancies

Byrd attempted to introduce for first reading a resolution requiring a special election if a council seat becomes vacant nine or more months prior to the next election. Under current city code, council appoints someone to fill the vacancy unless three or more seats are vacant at the same time, in which case, a special election is held. It has been several decades since a council vacancy occurred mid-term. The agenda packet comments pointed out that the agenda item material had not been reviewed by city staff or legal counsel.

Councilmember Judith Davis

quickly confirmed with City Solicitor Todd Pounds that this action involves changing the city charter and cannot be done with a simple resolution. She noted that legislation currently being considered by the General Assembly may impose mandatory language on municipalities, which could make Byrd’s proposal premature. She moved to refer the issue to the Board of Elections for comments. In the discussion that followed, council appeared supportive of considering changes to the current language. Council unanimously approved the referral.

See **COUNCIL**, page 8

## Greenbelt Violin Maker Close To Completion of a Quartet

by Nicole DeWald

Later this year, if all goes well, the Niemisto family will enter the ranks of collectors who own a quartet of stringed instruments by an individual maker. In this case, the maker is Laurence “Larry” Anderson, one of eight artists in residence at the Greenbelt Community Center.

The Niemisto parents, Eleanor (a harpist) and Paul (a low brass player and orchestra conductor), are based in Minnesota where Paul taught for many years as a professor of music at St. Olaf College. There they met Larry some 35 years ago, when he was an apprentice to violin maker David Folland. They commissioned Larry’s own first violin for their daughter Anna, who was a teenager at the time. The instrument has a secret – a small

photograph of Anna glued into its interior. Anna later transitioned to the viola, and the family commissioned a second instrument for her. Her sister Maija later worked in the shop, and Larry credits her with having helped him to make a violin for her. Their brother Tom plays a cello that Larry restored. This year, Larry is building a new cello for the family, with delivery planned for the summer. “This cello represents a generational scope to my career,” he notes. The new instrument may be played by Tom or Anna’s son Rowan Tilley. Rowan’s older brother Fynn now enjoys playing Anna’s violin, sometimes accompanied by his mom on viola and Rowan on cello.

See **QUARTET**, page 6



PHOTO BY LAURIE BEATEN

Fynn Tilley plays his mother Anna’s Larry Anderson violin at a talent show in 2019.

### What Goes On

**Thursday, March 25**  
[rescheduled from March 18]  
**1 to 3 p.m.** Free Produce Distribution, Community Center  
**Monday, March 22**  
**8 p.m.** Council Meeting: City Manager Budget Presentation  
**Wednesday, March 24**  
**8 p.m.** Budget Worksession: Overview, Revenues & General Government; Other Funds; Non-Departmental & Fund Transfers

All council meetings are virtual. See the meetings calendar at [greenbeltmd.gov](https://greenbeltmd.gov) for agendas and information on public participation in these meetings.



# Letters to the Editor

## Cognitive Dissonance

I got a strange feeling looking at the front page of the News Review today [March 11, 2021 issue]. At the top was the plan to cut 150 trees in the Forest Preserve (FP) for gardeners. At the bottom was an article about promoting pollinators.

Hummingbirds are pollinators. They nest between 10 and 40 feet. The more trees of that size that are cut, the fewer trees there are for hummingbirds to nest in and pollinate the gardens referred to in the article.

Birds are territorial. Every male hummingbird stakes out a quarter acre of turf. It's not just the food provided there, it's the distance to food. Birds can't get in a car and go to the store; there's a tradeoff between metabolic calories available and calories expended to get to them. If the tree is too far from the food, the food might as well not be there. So, for example, the hummingbirds I see once in a while have to come from within a quarter mile of the intersection of Southway and Ridge. The birds in the FP never make it this far. It's too expensive metabolically. And the birds I see don't pollinate the gardens the article refers to.

It only makes sense that the trees shading the garden plots are the right height for hummingbirds to nest in, and also the right distance for the hummingbirds to get to food, pollinating as they go. Now do some homework about other pollinators. Will the tree cutting leave enough habitat of the right kind for bees and butterflies?

Patricia Heil

## Special Election Amendment

On October 15, 2019, the Greenbelt City Council discussed an amendment to Greenbelt's Charter requiring a special election when city council seats become vacant outside of regular elections. Currently in such an occurrence, council selects their peer – not the people. At this meeting, Councilmembers agreed to the amendment in principle but raised questions on specifics, like how many months of vacancy would warrant a special election. Council voted unanimously for staff to draft the proposed amendment, and they agreed to participate in a worksession.

One and a half years later, at the March 8 meeting, Mayor Colin Byrd brought the amendment up again. Council had not held a worksession and our city's legal counsel and staff had not reviewed the background material for the amendment. The same specifics – like the months of vacancy – were still in question. Yet again, council voted unanimously for future reviews by staff and advisory boards to settle the details. Anyone but council.

Councilmember Ed Putens said fault in the stagnation ultimately lay with the council, and I agree. When City Council prioritizes Covid-19 safety and maglev opposition, the public sees action every month. However, council has let this and many other issues fall through the cracks, passing the buck to city staff and advisory boards only for those issues to never be raised again. Council's votes are clear, yet their inac-

tions over the last year and a half demonstrate a failure to live up to Greenbelt's democratic values.

Local government should represent its residents closer than any other democratic body. Yet, whenever democracy is inconvenient, council takes the easy way out. If that sounds troubling, you should let council know that the amendment is a priority for you, even though it is not for them.

Daniel Moses Thies & Amanda Lynne Jennings

## An Open Letter To Pete Buttigieg

We in Maryland are very concerned about the proposed maglev project.

If the maglev proceeds, Greenbelt will have to change its name to Magbelt. Gone will be the integrity of our remaining green belt. The new overwhelming architectural feature will be where the monster blows out of the ground like a jet aircraft and then flies 20 feet off the ground on its endless bridge.

The Baltimore-Washington Parkway would need a new designation as well, the Magway. Gone will be the landscaped, wooded buffer zone that makes it a Parkway.

The useless thing would not relieve traffic congestion on the Baltimore-Washington Parkway anyhow. That could be achieved by adding a lane where it bottlenecks from 3 to 2 lanes coming out of both cities. That should have been done 25 years ago when they spent money on installing curbs instead.

Then let the renewable-energy-powered electric cars that could be subsidized with all that maglev money roll cleanly and quietly back and forth.

Thank you for reading my petition.

Frank Gervasi

## Opter Out Opts In

Appalled by the vaccine registration process in Maryland and Prince George's County, this 66-year-old decided not to participate. During the first week of February, I submitted a vaccine request to one of my healthcare providers, MedStar. They put me on their waitlist. During the first week of March, I visited Johns Hopkins for a screening unrelated to Covid-19. Afraid the U.S. Postal Service would not deliver my results timely, I gained access to my Hopkins electronic health record. To my surprise, Hopkins had me on a vaccination waitlist. On March 9, I received email from Hopkins, inviting me to sign up for a vaccination appointment. On March 11, I got my first Pfizer injection at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab in Howard County. My visit there lasted 30 minutes. When asked to show my driver's license, I received the praise I deserved for completing eCheck-in properly.

Hopkins helped me make an appointment for my second injection. At this site, Hopkins appeared to be vaccinating solely senior citizens. On March 12, I got email from MedStar, asking if I wished to remain on their waitlist. I clicked No.

Adeline Wilcox

## Magazine Box?

On Saturday, I attempted to drop off a magazine at the yellow magazine exchange/reuse box at the corner of Southway and Crescent. Did it relocate or was it removed?

Thanks.

Scott Fifield

Editor's Note: The box has been removed. The person maintaining it can no longer do so and it had fallen into disrepair.



Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words.

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary. All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

- Monday 2 p.m. All Letters to the Editor (300 word limit), Articles/photos over 700 words, Display Ads (not camera ready).

- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.

- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified Ads and camera-ready display ads.

- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.

- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 8 p.m.

Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.

GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the municipal building.



Se Habla Español

Vaya a nuestra página web greenbeltnewsreview.com para ver artículos en español.

See our website, greenbeltnewsreview.com, for articles in Spanish.

SE ESPAÑOL HABLA



# Community Events

## How Food Impacts The Environment

On Sunday, March 28 at 7 p.m. two Green Teams will present an Environmental Zoom about how food choices impact the environment. The discussion will focus on what we eat, how we purchase it, and what is best to do with the food we don't eat.

Dr. Luisa Robles, the City of Greenbelt sustainability coordinator; John Lippert, the city's Green Team chair; and Jane Young, co-chair of the Greenbelt Community Church Green Team, will lead the discussion, which will also explore actions that can be taken to lessen adverse human impacts on the environment. Questions and discussion are welcome and encouraged.

This environmental Zoom series is sponsored by the Green Teams of Greenbelt Community Church, UCC and the City of Greenbelt.

RSVP to Jane Young at [gccjane@aol.com](mailto:gccjane@aol.com) for Zoom information. Give your username as it will appear in Zoom, or your phone number if you will be calling in.

## Survey Requests Input On Electric Vehicles

Do you currently own an electric vehicle or are you considering purchasing one in the future? The Greenbelt Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Planning Group is seeking input from Greenbelt residents to make recommendations to City Council to expand and accelerate the community's access to electric vehicle charging. Complete a short survey by Tuesday, March 23 at [forms.gle/nWayxKn23sC1NUJ38](https://forms.gle/nWayxKn23sC1NUJ38).

Anyone interested in joining the group to help make Greenbelt more EV friendly can email John Lippert at [ecolivingmag@aol.com](mailto:ecolivingmag@aol.com). The group engages in a Zoom discussion the fourth Thursday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m.



## Register for Youth Baseball Little League

2021 Spring registration is now open for Greenbelt Youth Baseball Little League. Programs are available for players 6 to 13 years old. Evaluations for players ages 9 to 13 years old will be held on Saturday, March 20 at Braden Field 2. Go to [gyblittleleague.org](https://gyblittleleague.org) for more information and to register. Contact [greenbeltyouthbaseball@gmail.com](mailto:greenbeltyouthbaseball@gmail.com) with questions.

## Simple Steps To Stop the Maglev

Are you wanting to take steps against the maglev but don't know what to do and don't have much time? Join our Simple Steps to Stop the Maglev! Simple Steps, which can be accomplished in 10 minutes or less (most of the time), are sent three to five days per week and it is optional to follow them. Anyone wanting to join can contact Susan at [suzanbwild@gmail.com](mailto:suzanbwild@gmail.com).

## At the Library

Curbside service is available Tuesdays through Fridays, 1 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays, 1 to 5 p.m. Customers may place new hold requests via [catalog.pgcmcls.info/polaris](https://catalog.pgcmcls.info/polaris) or Ask a Librarian Telephone Reference service at 240-455-5451. The library's Spanish language call center is available at 240-455-5451 (press option 2) Tuesdays through Fridays, 1 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays, 1 to 5 p.m.

The library is not accepting book donations for the foreseeable future. Customers can place donations in the third-party book donation bin; do not place donations outside the bin if it is full.

All Prince George's County Public Schools students have access to the library's online resources with their LINK card number. Adults may register for a free virtual library card or renew an existing card at [pgcmcls.info](https://pgcmcls.info).

### Kids Achieve Club

The mission of the Kids Achieve Club program is to provide academic support through homework assistance and reading practice for English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) students in grades 1 to 6. The program was created to support the unique needs of English learners, to foster a love of reading and to provide academic support. Children of all backgrounds and ethnicities are invited to participate.

### Teen Library Resources

Visit [pgcmcls.info/teens](https://pgcmcls.info/teens) for library resources for teens. Brainfuse HelpNow offers an array of additional learning resources, including SkillSurfer, a library of lessons, videos, tests and more. The library also helps students prepare for standardized tests and writing college admissions essays through the EBSCO LearningExpress online resource. Prepare for the PSAT/NMSQT, ACT, SAT, AP, ASVAB and more to advance higher education and vocational opportunities. Check the PGCMLS virtual events calendar regularly for related programming, such as virtual career chats and conversations about the college experience.

### ComicsPlus Library Edition

This service provides unlimited access to thousands of digital graphic novels and comics, anytime, anywhere. Browse by genre, publisher, or title; checkouts are for seven days with unlimited renewals. Visit [pgcmcls.info](https://pgcmcls.info) on your PC or mobile device, use your PGCMLS library card, and check out as many titles as you like. Items are always available, with no holds or waiting periods.

## See Call of the Forest On Zoom – March 21

On Sunday, March 21 at 7 p.m. in observance of International Day of Forests, a screening of the film Call of the Forests: The Forgotten Wisdom of Trees will be offered on Zoom.

The science and enchantment of the forest provides answers to modern dilemmas. The documentary follows scientist Diana Beresford-Kroeger as she investigates the profound biological and spiritual connection to forests. Her global journey explores the science, folklore and restoration challenges of this essential ecosystem. Beresford-Kroeger introduces forest scientists, protectors and lovers from across the world. She goes on to share the amazing stories behind the history and legacy of many ancient forests. The film explains the science of trees and the irreplaceable roles they play in protecting and feeding the planet.

Following the film there will a brief discussion about what makes the Greenbelt Forest Preserve special, why it needs protection and what steps to take to protect it. Bring stories that are loved or known from the Greenbelt Forest Preserve.

Join in for this free event. Registration is required at [tinyurl.com/3wzr2ht4](https://tinyurl.com/3wzr2ht4).

For more information contact Susan at [suzanbwild@gmail.com](mailto:suzanbwild@gmail.com) or 443-388-2961.

## Mishkan Torah Baker Teaches Macaroons

On Sunday, March 21 at 12:30 p.m., master baker Paula Volk will create a Passover classic – the macaroon. For Eastern European Jews, macaroons are a “must have” at the spring holiday of Passover. The traditional version is coconut but Paula's recipe is for almond macaroons. Passover is the Jewish holiday that commemorates the biblical story of the Exodus – in which God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. The celebration of Passover is prescribed in the Book of Exodus.

RSVP to [WaysAndMeans2@mishkantorah.org](mailto:WaysAndMeans2@mishkantorah.org) before Friday, March 19. Registrants will be sent the Zoom link and the recipe so that the ingredients can be purchased ahead of time for a bake-along with Paula. For other questions, call 301-474-4223 by March 19 or email the RSVP address above.

## Fire Department Easter Egg Hunt

The Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department will hold an Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt on Saturday and Sunday, March 27 and 28. Photos with the Easter Bunny will be available. Visit [Engine35.com](https://engine35.com) or [facebook.com/engine35](https://facebook.com/engine35) for more information.

## Bike Repair Webinar

The GHI Bicycle Committee, in association with the Washington Area Bicyclists Association (WABA), will host a Get Your Bike Ready for Spring Riding webinar on Saturday, March 27, 2 to 4 p.m. for GHI residents and members of the local community.

Spring is nearly here and bikes may need a little TLC after a cold and snowy winter. In this webinar, led by WABA technicians Sydney Soletto and Trey Robinson, viewers will learn how to look over their bike to check for issues and adjustments, how to fix a flat tire and some important safety tips for riding on streets, trails and bike lanes. At the end of the presentation, WABA staff will be hosting an extended Q&A session, so be sure to bring plenty of questions. There is no charge.

The link to join the webinar will be posted on the unofficial GHI Facebook page and in the Monday, March 22 GHI E-newsletter. For more information, or to receive the link directly, contact John Campanile, [jbelttower@yahoo.com](mailto:jbelttower@yahoo.com).

Plan to join the fun on March 27. The trails beckon.

## Astronomical Society Tours the World

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will be meeting virtually on Thursday, March 25. Anwar Al-Mallah, vice president of ASG, will conduct a virtual worldwide aerial tour of meteor craters, observatories and perhaps more, including the observatories on the Atacama Desert plateau in Chile and those in many other places as well. Anwar has mastered a computer flight simulator with which he can take us instantly to any place on Earth and show us the site sights from on high. They guarantee cloudless skies. A Zoom link to the meeting will be posted on the Astronomical Society's website, [greenbeltastro.org](https://greenbeltastro.org), before the meeting.

## Greenbelt Connects

Join Connecting Across Greenbelt (CAG) in monthly meetings that promote a lively community conversation as a way to think together, connect with neighbors, forge paths to equity in the area and creatively deepen support within the community, to enhance quality of life through connections and relationships.

This month's meeting, on Thursday, March 18, focuses on microaggression – everyday slights that communicate negative messages to a member of a marginalized group. CAG is a multi-cultural, multi-racial, and multi-generational group of residents who gather virtually to build relationships across neighborhoods and to understand current challenges for all Greenbelters. The group is building a resource of research-tested coping strategies for self-care and stress management called Caring and Connecting Toolkit ([bit.ly/CAGtoolkit](https://bit.ly/CAGtoolkit)). Share your ideas with the group and help pool resources. To find out about the group's monthly meetings (an outdoor activity in April), email [communityconnectionsbg@gmail.com](mailto:communityconnectionsbg@gmail.com).

## Garden Club Plot Assignment Meeting

The Greenbelt Community Garden Club will have a virtual 2021 plot assignment meeting on Tuesday, March 23 at 7 p.m. An email will be sent to returning gardeners with a link to join. New and returning plot holders may download or fill out the application form at [greenbeltgardenclub.com](https://greenbeltgardenclub.com).

Returning gardeners can direct any questions about the application to their garden coordinator. Fees and forms may be sent to the garden coordinator or mailed to Greenbelt Garden Club, P.O. Box 1732, Greenbelt, MD 20768, or payment can be made online using PayPal. Anyone having difficulty downloading or printing the form can call Martha Tomecek at 301-614-0691.

**GREENBELT ACCESS TELEVISION**  
Friday March 19- Thursday March 25  
**TAKE OUR COMMUNITY SURVEY TODAY!**  
<https://www.greenbeltaccesstv.org/community-survey>

PROGRAM SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE		CONNECT WITH GATe ON
7 am	<b>Greenbelt Newsreel</b>	• <b>Women's History Month</b> Programming
8 am	<b>Democracy Now!</b>	• <b>Repeat</b> of Yesterday's Program
9 am	<b>Utopia Film Festival</b> ★ <small>Selected Documentary • 2008</small>	• <b>Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai</b> <small>Directed by Lisa Merton &amp; Alan Dater</small>
10:30 am	<b>Strata: Portraits of Humanity</b>	• Exploring Human Cultural Heritage
11 am	<b>Greenbelt Newsreel</b>	• <b>Women's History Month</b> Programming
12 pm	<b>Democracy Now!</b>	• <b>Today's</b> Syndicated Program
1 pm	<b>Science Bowl PGCPs</b>	• <b>Elementary Competition</b> <b>Greenbelt v Thomas Stone</b>
2 pm	<b>Music at the New Deal Café</b>	• <b>Hillbilly Gypsies</b> <small>Old Time Bluegrass and Original Mountain Music</small>
3 pm	<b>Utopia Film Festival</b> ★ <small>Selected Documentary • 2008</small>	• <b>Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai</b> <small>Directed by Lisa Merton &amp; Alan Dater</small>
4:30 pm	<b>Strata: Portraits of Humanity</b>	• Exploring Human Cultural Heritage
5 pm	<b>Science Bowl PGCPs</b>	• <b>Elementary Competition</b> <b>Greenbelt v Thomas Stone</b>
6 pm	<b>Greenbelt Newsreel</b>	• <b>Women's History Month</b> Programming
7 pm	<b>Democracy Now!</b>	• <b>Today's</b> Syndicated Program
8 pm	<b>Utopia Film Festival</b> ★ <small>Selected Documentary • 2008</small>	• <b>Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai</b> <small>Directed by Lisa Merton &amp; Alan Dater</small>
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11 pm	<b>Democracy Now!</b>	• <b>Today's</b> Syndicated Program
12 am	<b>Greenbelt Newsreel</b>	• <b>Women's History Month</b> Programming

**WATCH US on VERIZON Fios 19 or COMCAST 77**  
**STREAMING LIVE at [www.greenbeltaccesstv.org/channel-live-stream](https://www.greenbeltaccesstv.org/channel-live-stream)**

More Community Events  
are located throughout  
the paper.

The Rude Mechanicals in residence at  
Greenbelt Arts Center present:

**GAC online**

**Hamless**

by William Shakespeare, adapted and directed by Erin Nealer

Hamlet with the title character removed!

Online: Fri, Sat & Sun, March 12-21. Suggested donation: \$10

[rudemechanicals.com](https://rudemechanicals.com)

[greenbeltartscenter.org](https://greenbeltartscenter.org)

Watch online: Old-Time Radio Shows. Auditions: Doctor Faustus March 22 & 23.



In Memoriam

Karen Gingell Smith

by Rick Ransom

Karen Smith, a long-time Greenbelter like her mother Mae Gingell, died in the hospital on January 29, 2021. She had struggled with diminished lung capacity and a resultant heart condition for the past several years. Karen was 62. She is survived by her daughter from her former marriage, Penny Elizabeth Smith, and Karen’s fiancé Gary Krueger. Both live in the home and were assisting in her care. She also leaves behind a granddaughter, Chloe, whom she loved to watch in ballet, karate and school events.

Karen’s brothers, Stephen and Ronald Gingell and her sister Penny Sue Gingell, preceded her in death. Karen had left high school to care for her sister, Penny Sue, in her battle with cystic fibrosis. She cared for other family members in their illnesses as well.

Karen worked as a secretary at Dasi, the licensed distributor of the University of Maryland pasteurization products, and as a manager at Ross Dress for Less. Her most memorable job was her service to many families in the city as a daycare host, which was in keeping with her family caregiver background. She was a steadfast member of Mowatt Memorial Methodist Church and produced the bulletins for services for 10 years, through 2019, as well as helping in various activities.

Karen liked to garden but was limited in recent years by her condition. She lived two doors down from me and one hot day I spied her lying on the ground by her flower bed. When I inquired if she was all right, she said, “I’m just catching my breath.” Gary, her fiancé, had helped to design and install a rock garden in the front yard. Chloe’s father, Don, would cut the grass and pressure-wash the home’s exterior. Gary related that one expression Karen uttered often that made him laugh was, “I’ll be back, I think I forgot something.” He stated that he and Karen had both thought she would live for a number of years longer. He despaired of not having those additional years.

As related by Gary and Penny, Karen enjoyed knitting and immersed herself in a variety of DIY projects. She loved coffee and donuts for breakfast and



Karen Smith

PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

enjoyed cooking like she was Martha Stewart. She readily participated in family adventures like visiting the beach. She had traveled the East Coast and much of the upper Midwest, but also liked visits to Ocean City and Rehoboth. She liked old movies, of which she could name the stars for most, and British mysteries in books and shows, as well as TV crime dramas like NCIS. She also enjoyed documentaries and politics like Face the Nation.

Gary stated that, “She could have been a formidable contestant on some of the TV game shows.”

A friend, Nick Slitor, observed that “Karen was a very nice and caring soul and a good Mom.” Bob Thomas remarked, “She will be missed. She had a rough life. Death was all around her for years.” I knew Karen as a good neighbor, practical and cheerful. I agree with Gary’s summary comment that, “Despite all that (her losses and grief), she was kind, caring, gracious and giving.”

The family plans to hold an in-person memorial event at Sandy Point State Park when pandemic restrictions are lifted fully.

Spaghetti Dinner

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church will host its Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, March 27 from 4 to 6 p.m. The dinner will include garlic bread, salad, spaghetti with meat or vegetarian sauce and a dessert. Come out and support Mowatt at 40 Ridge Road. Call the office at 301-474-9410 to reserve a meal. Reservations must be received by Monday, March 22. Pick up your dinner at the Ridge Road entrance. A donation is suggested.

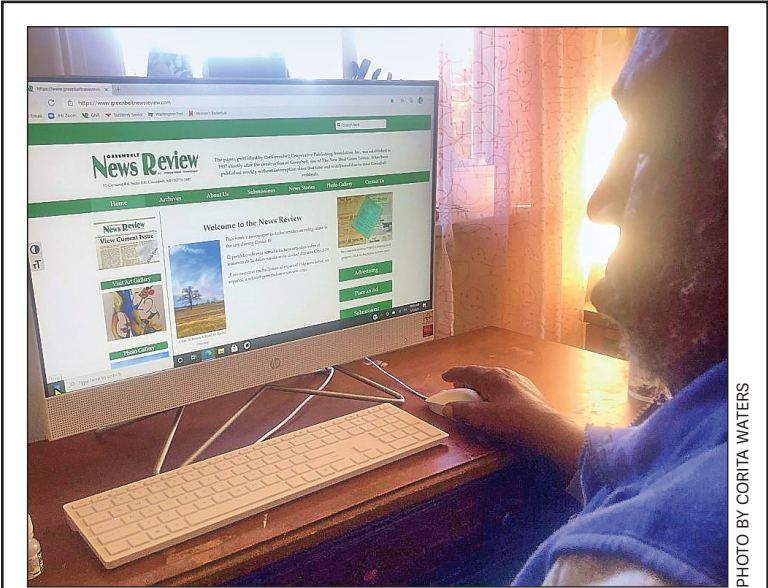


PHOTO BY CORITA WATERS

First time computer user John Henry Jones reads the News Review online.

**LISTEN to the NEWS REVIEW**  
Visually impaired may listen for free  
Call Metropolitan Washington Ear  
301-681-6636  
No special equipment needed

GCC Agape Services

Greenbelt Community Church continues their Lenten Agape sessions Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. The Board of Worship will lead attendees in a time of reflection, followed by an opportunity for personal sharing and support, ending in prayer. The last week before Easter there is no Wednesday service. Instead, a special Maundy Thursday service is offered on April 1 at the same time. The Easter Sunday celebration on April 4 begins at 10:15 a.m. Those who are not members of the church are invited to join any of these services on Facebook “live” at greenbeltucc.



Condolences to the family, friends, neighbors and fellow parishioners of Karen Gingell Smith, who died in January. She was a noted gardener, cook, knitter and caregiver.

Condolences also to the family and friends of Eileen Farnham.

Share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY of GREENBELT

During the pandemic, we gather **VIRTUALLY** for Liturgy of the Word Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

For ZOOM link:

**FDeBernardo@aol.com**

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church  
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors  
Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)

301-474-9410

Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor

In person worship services cancelled for now. Live streaming on our Facebook page @mowattumc. 10 a.m. Sunday mornings  
Call to reserve your Spaghetti Dinner.

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi  
Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)



Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



March 21 10 a.m.

Inspiration from a Tee Shirt, part I

Worship Associate John Barr with the Worship Associate Team; and Special Music

Auction Winner Carol Carter Walkers Tee-Shirt includes these words of inspiration: “Speak Like Frederick, Challenge Like Rosa, Write Like Maya, Build Like C.J.”

The Bible Says...

Lent-Week #5

Your sins have made a separation  
between you and your God  
Isaiah 59:2a



Sunday Worship Services

10a-11a ONLINE

**MCFcc.org/online**

Greenbelt Community Church



Whoever you are and wherever you are on your Spiritual journey, you are welcome HERE.

Join Us on Facebook Live  
Sunday at 10:15

**Time to Bear Fruit**

1 Hillside Road

301-474-6171

Rev. Curt DeMars-Johnson

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

RETURN TO PUBLIC CELEBRATION

With joy, we return to the public celebration of Mass. Attendance is limited to 100 persons per Mass, all (3 and up) must wear masks. All details available on our website. Mon-Fri 7:15am, Sat 9am; Sat vigil 5pm; Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am  
Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm

135 Crescent Rd.

[www.sthughofgrenoble.org](http://www.sthughofgrenoble.org)



Mishkan Torah Congregation



10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm

Saturday morning services at 10:00am

All services and activities are currently virtual

For further information, call (301) 474-4223 [www.mishkantorah.org](http://www.mishkantorah.org)

Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Worship with us at  
Greenbelt Baptist Church



Join us OUTSIDE Sundays at 11:00am/Wednesdays (online) at 7:00pm  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)  
Instagram/Facebook/Youtube

<<101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt MD>>

[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)

301-474-4212

@GreenbeltBaptist





# City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

### GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL- REGULAR MEETING

Monday, March 22, 2021 8:00 p.m.

#### ORGANIZATION

Call to Order  
Roll Call  
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag  
Consent Agenda – Approval of Staff Recommendations (Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by \*] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)  
Approval of Agenda and Additions

#### COMMUNICATIONS

##### Presentations

- ACE Educator Award Ceremony
- Proposed Greenbelt Metro Station Development Updates
- Arbor Day Proclamation
- Proposed FY 2022 City Budget

##### Petitions and Requests

(Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)

##### Minutes of Council Meetings

##### Administrative Reports

##### Committee Reports

\* Advisory Planning Board Report #2021-01: National Capital Planning Commission Concept Review Referral on the Proposed Relocation Bureau of Engraving and Printing to the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center

#### LEGISLATION

- An Ordinance to Amend Section 2-22 of the City Code to Authorize the Finance Manager to Sign Checks, Vouchers and Purchase Orders

#### OTHER BUSINESS

- Release of Funds to Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad
- NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan Environmental Assessment (EA)
- HR 40
- Reparations Commission Resolution
- Medicare for All
- Council Activities
- Council Reports
- \* Appointment to Advisory Board
- \* Reappointment to Advisory Board

#### MEETINGS-Scheduling of Future Meetings

**COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE VIRTUAL** Cablecast on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996 and [www.greenbeltnmd.gov/municipaltv](http://www.greenbeltnmd.gov/municipaltv)

**Resident participation: Information will be posted on Meetings Calendar at [www.greenbeltnmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltnmd.gov)**

*In advance the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email [banderson@greenbeltnmd.gov](mailto:banderson@greenbeltnmd.gov)*

### VIRTUAL MEETINGS FOR MARCH 22-26

Monday, March 22 at 8:00pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING** Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996, and Streaming at [www.greenbeltnmd.gov/municipaltv](http://www.greenbeltnmd.gov/municipaltv)

Tuesday, March 23 at 7:00pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION** On the Agenda: Discussion/Planning Student Awards

Tuesday, March 23 at 7:00pm, **GREEN ACES AND GREEN TEAM**, On the Agenda: Updates from Sustainability Framework / Green Team Circles and Enviro series of GCC and City Green Team.

Wednesday, March 24 at 8:00pm, **BUDGET WORK SESSION- Overview, Revenues & General Government/Other Funds/ Non-Departmental & Fund Transfers** Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996, and Streaming at [www.greenbeltnmd.gov/municipaltv](http://www.greenbeltnmd.gov/municipaltv)

Thursday, March 25 at 5:30pm, **BOARD OF ELECTIONS**, Virtual Meeting

Thursday, March 25 at 7:00pm, **FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD** On the Agenda: Maglev update, Hazard trees at Boxwood Tract, Takeaways: Garden Boundary Work Session, Forest bathing event proposal, Trail Management Pilot Project, Developing Trail Master Plan

*In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email [banderson@greenbeltnmd.gov](mailto:banderson@greenbeltnmd.gov).*

*This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000. For information on public participation for the virtual meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at [www.greenbeltnmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltnmd.gov).*

### VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on:

- Advisory Committee on Education
- Arts Advisory Board
- Board of Elections
- Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
- SCMAGLEV Opposition Task Force
- Youth Advisory Committee

**For more information call 301- 474-8000**



## Activity #289600

### Cost \$4

## 3 locations 3 time slots!

**March 29** Schrom Hills Park  
**March 30** Braden Field  
**March 31** Springhill Lake Recreation Center

# HOPPING AROUND TOWN

**Times available at 3pm | 4:30pm | 6pm**

**Greenbelt Recreation is Hopping Around Town with our Bunny friend to celebrate the spring season. In addition to a fun spring craft, participants will be given a flower pot to decorate and seeds to plant. Activities will conclude with a Bunny photo and a special treat for all youth participants.**

**Masks are required. Visit <https://bit.ly/3cyjOWN> to register. Pre-registration is required and limited to Greenbelt Residents. Questions? Contact [aphelan@greenbeltnmd.gov](mailto:aphelan@greenbeltnmd.gov).**

Greenbelt Residents: Need support with diapers?

## Emergency Diaper Distribution Program

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Greenbelt Nursery Project is supporting Greenbelt families in need of diapers on Thursday, March 25, 2021

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
**Please register online at:**  
<https://forms.gle/Y53vcRBIW8y8rN6g9>

After registering, you will receive pick-up details.

**Please note updated eligibility requirements:**

- Proof of **Greenbelt** residency (mail from federal, state, or local government agency displaying parent's name and residential address)
- State-issued photo ID
- **Each** child's birth certificate

## March GRAB & GO SENIOR MEALS

Council Member Todd M. Turner and the Prince George's County Department of Family Services will host a March Drive-Up GRAB & GO Senior Meals Event prepared by Martin's Catering for 4th District Senior Residents

**District 4 Senior Residents Only (60 and older)!**  
**REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY!**  
**Registration Deadline: Monday, March 22, 2021**

**Thursday, March 25, 2021**  
**1:00 pm - 2:30 pm**  
**Green Ridge House**  
**22 Ridge Road**  
**Greenbelt, MD 20770**

**Contact Katherine Farzin at 240-542-2019 to register**

(301) 952-3094 • [District4@co.pg.md.us](mailto:District4@co.pg.md.us) • [pgcouncil.us/district4](http://pgcouncil.us/district4)

**Service. Community. Progress.**

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL



### WEED WARRIORS: Invasive Plant Pull

Saturday, March 27th  
10:00am-1:00pm  
Buddy Attick Park  
555 Crescent Road



Be a part of the community effort to remove invasive plant species from the environment at Buddy Attick Park. Volunteers will work with Public Works staff to remove invasive vines from native trees and to pull other invasive plant species. Masks will be required at all times.

Reminders:

- Bring a reusable water bottle
- Wear weather-appropriate clothing and closed-toe shoes
- Students: bring community-service forms
- Volunteers must register in order to participate
- Limited to 25 volunteers

To Register: Contact Environmental Coordinator Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll at [kdriscoll@greenbeltnmd.gov](mailto:kdriscoll@greenbeltnmd.gov)

### MOONLIT MOVIES

Braden Field, Behind the Youth Center  
Fridays, April 2 - May 28

Outdoor movies have been a tradition in Greenbelt since 2014, and this year they will be a safe, fun way to get back to the movies! Greenbelt Recreation and Old Greenbelt Theatre will feature family fun films. Please visit the Greenbelt Virtual Recreation Center for more information.

**MOONLIT MOVIES:**

**FLASHBACK FRIDAYS**

**PRESENTED BY**





### Free Produce Distribution

MARCH 25, 2021  
1:00PM-3:00PM  
GREENBELT COMMUNITY CENTER  
15 CRESCENT ROAD,  
GREENBELT, MD 20770  
GROUND FLOOR EAST IS LOCATED NEAR ROUND-ABOUT AND FLAGPOLE

**For City Services, Events, Meeting, Info and more**  
**[www.greenbeltnmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltnmd.gov)**  
**Follow**  
**@cityofgreenbelt** on Facebook and Twitter



QUARTET continued from page 1

Larry notes that the four instruments of the string quartet form “the foundation of the modern orchestra, established in the 18th century by Franz Joseph Haydn.” The two violins, viola and cello provide the basis for the harmonic structure of orchestral music. Paul adds that the range of the instruments in a string quartet is also roughly analogous to the range of the human voice, from soprano heights to bass depths. “For me personally,” Larry says, “it is thrilling to know that I will have a quartet

in the possession of one family.” Anderson offers instrument repair services as well as commissions. Those fortunate enough to visit his Greenbelt studio when the Community Center reopens may also enjoy a glimpse of one of his “just for fun” personal projects, such as an ornate piece of furniture, a sculpture or a pictorial panel.

For more information about the City of Greenbelt Artist in Residence Program, visit [greenbeltnmd.gov/arts](http://greenbeltnmd.gov/arts).



Anna Niemisto (Tilley), viola, and sister Maija Niemisto, violin, circa 2000, pose with their instruments made by Laurence "Larry" Anderson.



A cello under construction in Larry Anderson's Greenbelt studio

- Photos by Larry Anderson



Crocuses turn their faces to the spring sun.

PHOTO BY MARA HEMINGER

SCHOOLS continued from page 1

situations and often with tech problems that make it hard to get them the information in a clear way. This is especially hard with eighth grade. Many of these students have been in my band class since sixth grade and it’s tough knowing that I may not see them before they head to high school.” Performances have not been possible so far, including festival adjudications. Fung was impressed with the ease that her students have shown in navigating the virtual setting and “how well the students can still show their personalities and engage with each other through Zoom.” The internet time lag has led to greater patience, something she hopes “we can keep when we return to the band room.”

Kevin Hawk, the guitar teacher at ERHS, has found the inability to have group performances a major loss, even though he was still able to do a lot of the same things that were done face to face. Students have been able to submit videos for festival adjudication. It has been difficult to provide guitars for all students, due to the problem of nationwide backorders, and the unforeseen hurdle of simply tuning has arisen, because of the Zoom restrictions. Hawk has introduced an interactive music theory program, play-a-long and instructional videos, an assignment/practice video uplink system and a cloud-based recording program, among other things. A guitar teacher for over 20 years, he never thought that teaching guitar online would be “as successful as it has been.” He has grown as a teacher and is “excited to use these new tools and skills when we return to the new normal.”

For ERHS band teacher Rachel Zephir, the pandemic has both allowed opportunities, like the added time for exploring improvisation and music from different cultures, while presenting obstacles, such as the inability to perform live. Rehearsing entire pieces is difficult as well as assessing individual students’ progress. Group recordings have been made but the process is laborious. A plus is that she has been able to bring in, via Zoom, guest musicians and alumni who have shared their experiences as musicians “so my students can plan their future in a Covid world.”

While the pandemic has “definitely caused some devastation to any of us who teach ensembles,” ERHS vocal teacher Michele Fowlin has found ways to “spark other areas of creativity that oftentimes we may have neglected,” such as “music technology, deeper dives into musicianship and strengthening the individual skills.” Though the essential live



PHOTO COURTESY ERHS

Eleanor Roosevelt High School guitar teacher Kevin Hawk, right, poses with the first honor guitar ensemble in the state of Maryland, pictured in March 2020.

element was lost, a virtual choir recording was done. Fowlin provided instrumental recordings that have been used for singers to work with individually. While some have suffered from the isolation, others “have done better than when we were in person,” making evident the value of music as “such an incredible learning tool,” in its ability to instill creativity and inspiration “just by the mere presence and love expressed by each other.”

Fowlin remarked that “the pandemic has connected us all the more together because we have intentionally placed time and energy into being connected yet apart. Any choir or band can make good music but when the members are bonded to one another, the music transforms itself to an entirely different level. So, if these groups ever have the opportunity to come together, oo wee, it’s going to be incredible!”

NextLOOK Presents The Gift at the Clarice

Latest in the NextLOOK series, The Clarice partners with Joe’s Movement Emporium to present The Gift, an immersive, interactive performance on Friday, March 19, from 7 to 8 p.m. on Vimeo.

The Gift reimagines white supremacy as a curable infection and invites the audience to participate in a clinical trial of a possible cure.

The cost is “pay what you wish” and more information is available at [theclarice.umd.edu](http://theclarice.umd.edu).

Free Master Class For Auditioning Teens

Art Spark: Teen Audition Master Class with Shakespeare in the Parks takes place virtually on Sunday, March 21 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Teenaged aspiring actors can prepare for auditions with help from Bess Kaye and Jack Schmitt, professional actors with Prince George’s Shakespeare in the Parks. Open to ages 13 to 18. Limited space available. Teens should prepare an age-appropriate monologue to present.

For more information, call 301-699-2255; TTY 301-699-2544. Registration is required through [pgparksdirect.com](http://pgparksdirect.com).



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[www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com](http://www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com)

**Elder Caregiver (Silver Spring)**

Highly-dependable and extremely compassionate Caregiver with 11+ years' extensive experience in providing timely and friendly care to elderly and disabled clients. A warm-hearted individual who performs personal care activities in a manner that maximizes clients independence and dignity in a safe environment. Poised to work as an active member of an enthusiastic care giving team is seeking meaningful employment in the Washington DC metro area.

[Monicamanzano585@yahoo.com](mailto:Monicamanzano585@yahoo.com) or phone (301) 646-2132

GRANT SEASON IS NOW: EARN MONEY FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION

GREENBELTFOUNDATION.ORG



**Greenbelt Seniors Softball League**

Season is starting

- Men 60 and over
- Women 50 and over
- in good health

Contact George Harrison (301) 538-3636







COUNCIL continued from page 1

**Foreclosure Memorandum**  
Byrd proposed that council direct the city solicitor to draft legislation prohibiting banks/financial institutions in Greenbelt from foreclosing for the rest of the year.

Byrd noted that Governor Larry Hogan has extended the state foreclosure moratorium through the end of March. He stated that this was not long enough and asked for council to discuss how to weigh in on this issue. Byrd acknowledged that he is not sure of the extent to which the city can influence this issue but hoped that council could find consensus for asking the state and federal governments for a longer-lasting moratorium.

Pounds reported that foreclosure law is governed so strictly by the state that he does not know how far a city could go and seemed very doubtful that it could succeed if it tried. Councilmembers, in general, doubted they had the authority to impose a moratorium but appeared open to attempting to work with the state to provide additional relief. Several raised the issue of the need for repayment plans. With the pandemic and economic restrictions now in place at various levels for over a year, both homeowners and renters who had needed forbearance on their mortgage and rent payments now owe substantial amounts. Councilmembers called for allowing them some time to make up those payments.

No specific action was taken with regard to foreclosure.

Council segued into the planned meeting announced in an email sent last fall to commercial apartment owners in which they urged the owners to work with tenants in financial difficulty. This meeting has not been held. Various councilmembers expressed their frustration over the lack of progress on this item and whether a meeting was the best way to deal with the owners, with some councilmembers urging a “get tough” approach and others calling for working with them. In the end, council took no specific action on this item.

**Collective Bargaining**  
In this item, Byrd wanted council to direct the city solicitor to draft legislation to provide all city employees, regardless of department, with the right to collective bargaining similar to what is granted in the city charter to police officers. As he introduced this item, Byrd revised it to refer the issue to the Employee Relations Board and the Community Relations Advisory Board (CRAB).

Council approved the motion but most councilmembers had concerns, pointing out that under state law, employees already have the right to request collective bargaining and that it is not really council’s place to initiate such action and that even actions intended to be helpful could run

afoul of labor relations laws and regulations.

**Noncitizen Voting**  
This agenda item would have directed the city solicitor to draft legislation that would authorize residents to vote regardless of whether they are U.S. citizens. At the meeting, Byrd revised the motion to refer it to the Board of Elections and to CRAB. Pounds confirmed that both this and Byrd’s term limits proposal are charter questions.

Davis noted that the issues of who can vote and whether there should be term limits are up to council. Both would require charter amendments and “lots of research.” Byrd noted that there are 10 municipalities nationwide that permit resident noncitizens to vote, with nine of them being in Maryland.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts called for putting these issues on the city ballot this November.

City resident Bill Orleans argued that council should just make the change without referral to the committees or the voters. Davis disagreed, saying this is a controversial issue and council needs to hear from the voters. While Roberts acknowledged that council could take this action on its own, the most important thing is for people to be able to say, “I had a voice in this.” If citizens are not given a voice, it gives them grounds to say the action is not legitimate. He expressed confidence in the outcome, saying that Greenbelters are fair people, and it is important to go through due process and not force this change onto people.

Councilmember Silke Pope strongly objected to allowing anyone who came to the United States illegally to vote. Having been born abroad herself, she said “there is a process, and you have to do it the right way.”

Byrd’s motion to refer to the Board of Elections and CRAB was approved.

**Term Limits**  
The meeting was getting close to midnight when Byrd introduced his next agenda item, this one to limit councilmembers first elected after 2016 to five consecutive two-year terms. In making this a motion, he again revised it to refer the question to the Board of Elections and CRAB.

Councilmember Leta Mach tried to immediately call the question, but her colleagues were not having that. Davis called the exception for the long-tenured councilmembers unfair. Roberts did not like term limits, noting that some things cannot be done in one, two or three terms. He noted that it took 20 years in council for him to achieve his primary goal of establishing the Forest Preserve. In a municipality, he argued, citizens can unseat councilmembers any time they want by voting against them. He said that he would not vote for term limits without a referendum. Term limits would stymie good people who want to make a difference, he said.

Orleans agreed that term limits are unnecessary and called upon citizens to be more attentive to what council does.

Davis’ amendment to hold a worksession passed. Byrd’s amendment to refer the issue of term length to CRAB failed.

**WMATA Service Cuts**  
WMATA has issued a notice announcing its proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22), which begins July 1. The proposal maintains current (pandemic) levels of service through December. However, it calls for major cuts to bus and rail services including eliminating many bus routes, closing the rail system at 9 p.m. instead of 11 p.m., increasing the time between trains and closing 22 stations including College Park – University of Maryland. The proposal pre-dates the passage of the federal

See COUNCIL, page 9

Democratic Club Honors Women’s History Month

by Konrad Herling

On Friday, March 26 at 7:30 p.m., the Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club honors not only the significant contributions that women have made to improve the quality of life of women and America in the process, but also a woman who affects the lives of all Prince Georgians, State’s Attorney Aisha Braveboy.

While many will connect Women’s Rights with Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth and those over the last 50 years, such as Shirley Chisholm, Jane Fonda, Billy Jean King and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Braveboy has served our county, which is approximately 52 percent women, in numerous ways.

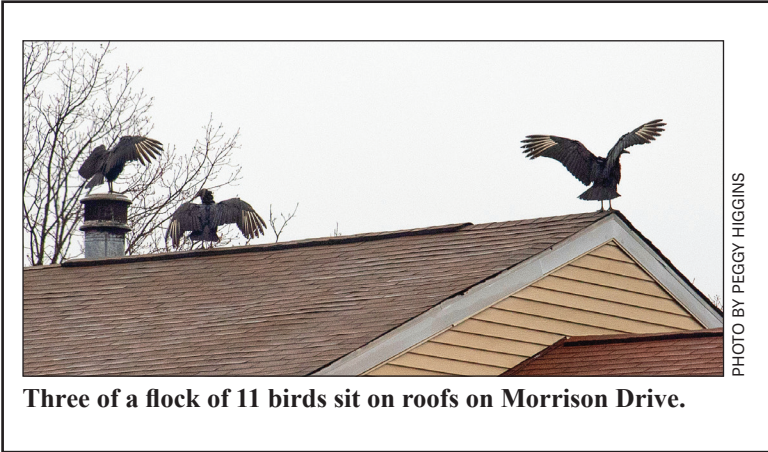
Braveboy received her Juris Doctorate from Howard University School of Law. She represented Maryland’s 25th District (Largo, Clinton and Suitland among the communities) in the House of Delegates from 2007 to 2015. In that capacity, she chaired the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland and was a member of Maryland’s Women’s caucus. In 2018, she was elected as Prince George’s County State’s Attorney, becoming the second woman to serve in that capacity,

succeeding the first woman to hold that position, Angela Alsobrooks, who was elected as County Executive in that same election.

As State’s Attorney, Braveboy has moved to provide more counseling for first time non-violent felony drug offenders and a second chance. This has translated to more of the county’s youth continuing with education and securing employment. Prior to her service as State’s Attorney, she served as General Counsel for the Community Public Awareness Council and brought in counselors to divert students from the criminal justice system.

Braveboy instituted a change in the process regarding pre-trial bail, issuing an order that the State’s Attorney’s office would no longer require cash bail for pre-trial release if the person is not a danger to society and was determined not to pose a flight risk.

To receive the Zoom link for the club’s meeting, or to become a member or renew a membership, access the organization’s website: rooseveltclub.com. For additional questions, contact Konrad Herling at kongeneherl@gmail.com or by phone at 301-345-9369.



Three of a flock of 11 birds sit on roofs on Morrison Drive.

**Permit Reform Now**

[spril.com/PermitReform](http://spril.com/PermitReform)

Paid ad by Tom & Johanna Jones, GHI Members

Greenbelt

**COOP**

Supermarket Pharmacy

A collage of three images related to Passover: a stack of matzah (unleavened bread), a roasted lamb shank with a whole carrot, and several bottles of kosher wine from Cantina Gabriele and Mount Hermon.

**PASSOVER**

May your Seder be a beautiful celebration for you and yours

In Historic Roosevelt Center  
[www.greenbelt.coop](http://www.greenbelt.coop)

**Favorite Traditional Foods of Passover**

- Lamb Bone-In and Boneless, Lamb Loin Chops
- Beef Brisket on the Deli Hot Bar
- Kosher Wines - Cantina Gabriele, Mount Hermon



# Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, [www.greenbeltdmd.gov/police](http://www.greenbeltdmd.gov/police)  
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

**Robbery**  
March 7, 2:37 a.m., 7901 Mandan Road. Two men approached a man entering the condominium building and one displayed a handgun and announced a robbery. They took the man’s backpack, laptop, cell phone and car keys and fled in the man’s gray 2015 Chrysler 200 bearing Maryland tags 9EB1204.

March 7, 12:33 p.m., 6001 Cherrywood Court. A man approached another man who was outside walking and asked him for money. He then grabbed the man’s keys and ran toward the man’s vehicle. The owner of the car yelled and the person who took the keys threw them to the ground and fled on foot.

March 8, 9:15 p.m., 6200 block Breezewood Court. A woman reported that when she was walking on March 7 at 5 a.m., a man grabbed her purse from behind and then punched her in the head. She suffered minor injuries.

**Fraud**  
March 9, 5:56 p.m., 6 Court Hillside. A check that was put into a mailbox on February 16 was taken by someone who changed the amount and cashed it.

**Theft**  
March 6, 2 a.m., 20 Southway. A metal sign was taken from the BP service station. Surveillance footage showed two persons, one, a Black man wearing all black pants and a shirt with white writing on the front and the other, a White woman with red hair, wearing a gray flannel jacket and dark-color pants. They fled in a vehicle described as a black 2007 Dodge Ram pickup truck with Maryland tags, filled with what appeared to be scrap metal.

March 9, 9:39 a.m., 6023 Springhill Drive. A package was taken from the front stoop of a residence.

## Peeping Tom



Peeping Tom suspect

March 9, 10:28 p.m., 6622 Lake Park Drive. Surveillance footage showed a man peering into a residence.

**Vehicle Crime**  
Two vehicles were recovered. Both had been taken on February 16 and both were also recovered on the same day, March 4. They are a 2011 Toyota Camry, taken from 6205 Springhill Drive and recovered by Prince George’s County Police on Somerset Road near 61st Place in Riverdale, and a 2013 Volvo C-70, taken from the 100 block Lakeside Drive and recovered on Ridge Road near Northway.

Five vehicles were stolen. Two were left with the engine running – an unlocked green 2003 Toyota Camry with Maryland tags 6Ek6004, taken from 9158 Springhill Court, and a red 2012 Honda Civic with Virginia tags UDU7913, taken from 9200 Edmonston Road. Also stolen was a white 2010 Nissan Sentra with Maryland tags 5CW522, taken from 9102 Springhill Lane. All three were stolen on March 7.

Two other stolen vehicles were left unlocked and with engines running. They are a black 2017 Chevrolet Cruze with Maryland tags DP0621, taken from 5911 Cherrywood Terrace on March 9, and a 2020 Toyota RAV 4, taken from Edmonston Road near Springhill Court on March 10 and recovered the same day by Metropolitan Police in the 2700 block of Langston Place, in Washington, D.C.

Five driver-side air bags were taken. Three came from vehicles at 219 Lakeside Drive and one each from 5911 and 6001 Cherrywood Lane. Maryland rear tag 99P237 was taken from 17 Court Ridge Road on March 8.

Driver-side doors were forced open in the 200 block Lakeside Drive. A pair of boots was taken from one vehicle and nothing appeared to have been taken from the other. A door handle was pulled off a car on March 10 at 155 Westway.

A wallet was taken from an unlocked vehicle in the 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace on March 8.

A passenger quarter-window was broken, three screen/monitors cracked and the interior of a vehicle was vandalized with white paint. White paint was also found on the engine and gas tank areas and a marker was used to place graffiti on the exterior.

A tire and rim were taken. A witness saw a man taking the wheel off the vehicle and then fleeing in a blue vehicle.

## Fatal Shooting

On Monday, March 15 at approximately 2:15 p.m. officers responded to the 5800 block of Cherrywood Terrace for a report of a non-responsive man inside a residence. Officers observed him to be suffering from what appeared to be stab wounds. The victim Ralph Jerome Logan, 34, of Greenbelt was pronounced deceased on the scene. Further investigation revealed that he had not been stabbed, but had been shot multiple times.

Officers are investigating and there is no suspect information at this time. Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact the Greenbelt Police Department at 301-474-7200.



An extraordinarily large blue bird seen recently at the Lake turned out to be a WSSC truck mending the trail after pipe work on nearby Crescent Road.

## COUNCIL continued from page 8

Covid-19 relief bill, which provides aid to transportation systems. It is not yet known how this aid will affect the budget proposal.

Council unanimously agreed to send a letter to WMATA opposing the service cuts and calling for the restoration of bus service between the Greenbelt station and Baltimore-Washington Airport.

**Maglev**  
Council unanimously approved hiring Dr. Burak Tanyu and Smart Mobility, Inc. to provide technical advice and assistance in reviewing the SCMaglev DEIS. The combined cost is not to exceed \$29,460.

In addition, council appointed Jacquelyn Waters, Martha Galvin and Jonathan Taylor to the Maglev Task Force.

**Proclamations**  
Byrd presented proclamations declaring March 8 as International Women’s Day, March as National Colorectal Awareness Month, March 31 as Cesar Chavez Day and March as Irish American Heritage Month in Greenbelt.

**Petitions and Requests**  
In an email that Davis reported in the meeting, resident Bob Rudd asked council to begin to meet in person, considering alternate locations such as the American Legion hall or firehouse, if

necessary. He suggested that all council meetings and worksessions be conducted in person no later than July 4.

Rudd also called for council to establish a policy that all online council participation include a live video of every participating councilmember. Putens and Byrd typically project a static picture during all or part of zoom meetings. Councilmember Emmett Jordan has used a static picture while out of the city. Rudd stated that failure to present a live image “raises actual and legitimate legal questions as to your participation and empowerment individually and as a collective body.” Further, “No one knows if you are even paying attention.”

Patrick Gleason of the Greenbelt Boys and Girls Club and the Greenbelt Soccer Alliance asked council to consider building another field, preferably a turf field. He said that many of the city’s current fields are unplayable or dangerous, especially after heavy rains. He said that local teams lose players to traveling teams in search of better fields. David Whiteman of the Greenbelt Soccer Alliance and Ian Gleason of the Greenbelt Babe Ruth and Eleanor Roosevelt High School girls soccer supported this request.

## VACCINE continued from page 1

<https://covid19vaccination.prince-georgescountymd.gov/>.

Those without internet access can call the Maryland GoVAX Covid-19 Vaccination Support Center at 1-855-MDGOVAX (1-855-634-6829) from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week for information. There is an automated menu (“Press 1 for English, 2 for Spanish,” for example) that requires entry of the caller’s five-digit zip code and makes repeated attempts to divert callers to the website. With persistence, callers can reach a human being who will assist with the pre-registration and appointment process and answer any questions.

Those seeking vaccination can still attempt to sign up at pharmacies and hospital centers.

The Health Department currently operates five vaccination clinics: Cedar Heights Community Center in Seat Pleasant, Cheverly Health Center in Cheverly, Kentland Community

Center in Landover, Laurel-Beltsville Senior Activity Center in Laurel, Southern Regional Technology and Recreation Center in Fort Washington and the Sports and Learning Complex in Landover. This last site in Landover is temporarily closed through Sunday, March 28.

Alsobrooks cites the increasing rate of vaccinations in the county as part of the rationale to open up the health department’s facilities to Phase 1C. In the county overall, however, many in the 1C category are in the process or have completed being vaccinated via the other modes of distribution for which they were already eligible – pharmacies, Kaiser Permanente, state mass vaccination sites, Luminis and the Maryland Medical System and other hospitals. Of the dose allocation in weeks 1 to 12 of the rollout, only just under one-third has gone to the county health clinics.

### Send Us Your High Resolution Photos!

The News Review encourages readers to send in photos of Greenbelt landmarks, activities and the changing seasons. Photos should be at least 300 dpi, and must include the name of the photographer and a caption. The caption must name any identifiable people in the photo, as well as explain the picture.

If you are sending photos from your phone, please choose the option to send "actual size", or upload the photos to your computer first and then email the photos at full size. Send photos to [editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com).

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**Overpayments Policy**

To properly account for overpayments too small to warrant refunding, effective March 25, 2021 the News Review will accumulate overpayments of less than \$1.00 and periodically contribute the funds to a registered charity. Once the office reopens, this policy will not apply to payments made in person.



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**BOXED:** \$10 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$15). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads.

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**DROP** ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

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**6G Plateau**  
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End frame that backs to the woods.

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#1 in Sales For Greenbelt in 2020!





MUSEUM continued from page 1

example of the resourcefulness of our city supporting its citizens.

Young has collected photographs of sidewalk chalk drawings by two local artists, Carol Ready and Vijay Parameshwaran, who shared their creativity during the pandemic – sometimes with depictions of the current social and cultural climate. There are photographs illustrating the extent of closures in the city – such as an empty bulletin board at the Community Center and a closed playground. A local crafter has donated masks she sewed for family and friends during the pandemic.

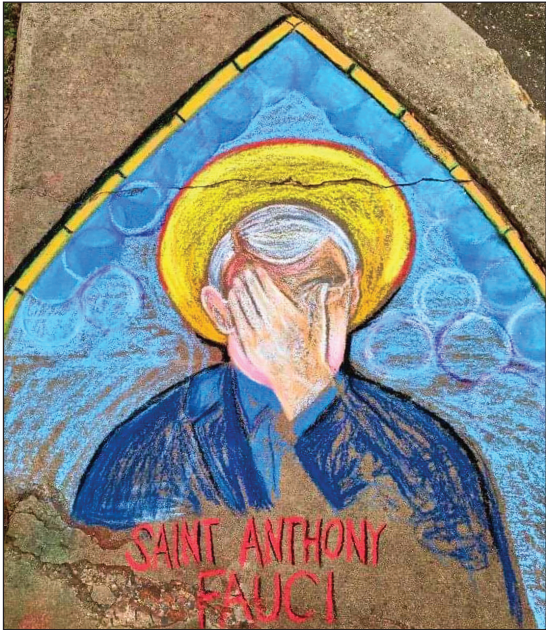
Young is looking for Greenbelters to donate small items such as personal protective equipment, letters, photographs, videos, oral or written accounts, artwork and children’s drawings in order to capture the dramatic disruption to everyone’s lives during the pandemic and to depict the efforts by Greenbelt citizens to keep life going as normally as possible. If you would like to share your experience or donate an item, Young asks that you email the museum at [info@greenbeltmuseum.org](mailto:info@greenbeltmuseum.org) or call 301-507-6582 and leave a message, as museum staff are working from home at this time. Donations will be saved in the museum archives. The images will eventually be posted on the museum website in order to showcase the collection, with future plans to place a small display within the museum’s house, located at 10-B Crescent Road.



Greenbelt Recreation at Springhill Lake Elementary School, July 2020



Empty bulletin board in the Community Center, spring 2020



Saint Anthony Fauci



Greenbelt Community Center Playground, April 2020

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**FREEDOM REALTY**

**Porch Collection Of Food Donations**

RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) will be rolling out Porch Greenbelt this month. Porch is an all-volunteer hunger relief program that provides healthy food to neighbors who are food insecure by supplementing the St. Hugh of Grenoble Food Pantry. It is built around the simple idea of a neighborhood food drive. Once a month, on a designated day, residents will place non-perishable food donations on their front porch. A volunteer coordinator will go from porch to porch from 2 to 5 p.m. and collect the food donations. The donated food will be transported to the St. Hugh of Grenoble Food Pantry where it will be distributed to Greenbelters who are struggling to get enough food to eat.

The Porch program will begin in the Woodland Hills and Boxwood Village neighborhoods. Boxwood Village’s designated day will be every third Sunday beginning this Sunday, March 21. Woodland Hills’ designated day will be every second Sunday in each month, with the next collection on April 11. The program hopes to become city-wide and help many people in the entire Greenbelt community.

As Mother Theresa said, “If you can’t feed a hundred people, then just feed one!”

Anyone with questions or who would be interested in being a volunteer with Porch Greenbelt can contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler at [spreadruak@gmail.com](mailto:spreadruak@gmail.com).

**Montpelier Has Music And Art Competitions**

Montpelier Arts Center is holding competitions for visual artists and classical musicians. Winners of the classical recital competition will be featured in a virtual presentation during the 2021-2022 season. Winners of the artist exhibition competition will be showcased in the Montpelier Library Gallery, September 2021 to July 2022. To be eligible, artists must be 18 years or older and reside in Maryland. The deadline for submission to both competitions is Sunday, March 28. Call program contact Sara Morgan, 301-377-7800 for more information.

**Spring Activity Guide Now Available Online**

Greenbelt Recreation’s spring classes and special events are online via the Virtual Recreation Center. Go to [greenbeltnmd.gov/recreation](http://greenbeltnmd.gov/recreation) to access a wide range of online activities, including classes, video tutorials, sing-alongs and more. Art activities can be accessed in the Visual Arts section of the Virtual Recreation Center.

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**Senior Living** 55+ Community 2Br 2Ba condo w/fireplace & more! Remodeled w/new kitchen, modern baths, sunlit enclosed patio, new carpet & paint.  
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**Large floorplan w/addition** Half bath on main level. Masonry townhome w/ fenced backyard & brick patio. Zoned HVAC system, 11' x 17' master br.  
**Cape Cod SFH** 3br 2 1/2ba home with rem. Kitchen, above-ground pool & wrap-around deck. Finished basement with family room and office space.  
**Townhome with 2 additions** 2 bedroom GHI home on fenced corner lot. Large fenced backyard, extra storage in front. Central HVAC.  
**4 Bedroom 3 Level Townhome** Master bedroom & full bath on main level. Opened remodeled kitchen, fireplace in lr. Backs to protected woodlands.  
**Charlestowne Village** Single-level 1-br condo w/ 1 1/2 baths, new kitchen! Parquet floors, full bath, remodeled kit. With SS appliances. \$149,900  
**Addition - Backs to Woodlands** Completely remodeled throughout; half bath on main level. Zoned HVAC system. Fenced yard, shed & raised deck.  
**Brick Townhome** 2 Bedroom GHI townhome, remodeled throughout. Modern kitchen with full size washer. Hardwood both levels. \$169,900  
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**Full Attached Inlaw apartment** 5 BR, 4 Bath home with lots of space. Elevator to bedroom level; no stairs! 2 Full kitchens, generator, fireplace & more.

**Your Greenbelt Specialists In Roosevelt Center**



# Greenbelt Artists Keep Going Through Lockdown: Part 2

by Matt Arbach

Sally Davies and Leah Cohen, much like the artists featured in our February 18 story, have also carried on making art and instructing others in the processes of making art during a year of lockdown. In both their art and their teaching, they promote compassion, community, mindfulness and celebration as ways to cope with the isolation and anxiety of pandemic restrictions.

Twelve-year resident Davies has exhibited her paintings and illustrations in many venues throughout the Mid-Atlantic region, gaining recognition with a growing collection of awards for her creativity. Most recently, her acrylic painting *Labyrinth of Life* won the Best in Show award in the August 2020 Juried Exhibit at the Art League Gallery in the Torpedo Factory Arts Center in Alexandria. Her work has been featured in magazines, cookbooks, menus, posters, textbooks and many children’s books. Davies explains that “my illustrations are done with ink line and bright watercolor washes and are very different from my fine art paintings, which tend to be looser in style and on large canvases.”

More locally, she will be teaching Pre-K Art Exploration classes for Greenbelt Recreation through Zoom in April and May. While the travails of the first three months of the pandemic made it difficult to make art, Davies compensated by making hundreds of masks for both her friends and frontline workers. In her upcoming exhibit, *Community Spirit*, at the Publick Playhouse in Cheverly, April 1 to May 20, she hopes that her compositions “create a bond of community spirit ... to show the planet as one whole place and an overall compassionate community.”

Cohen is a multi-talented artist who works in painting, printmaking and functional arts and also teaches for Greenbelt Recreation since moving to Greenbelt in 2007. “Much of my artwork at this time is focused on designing activities and lessons in fiber arts,” she said. “I’m also teaching a class in geometry and art. This semester, it’s focused on modern art and in the spring the focus will be on folk art. It’s great fun!”

World culture is a passion as well, as she has explored Eastern mandalas and Japanese decorative stitching, with the goal of working in Native American weaving traditions. The arts, in this past year of the pandemic, have enabled her to “incorporate mindfulness and moments of celebration” into her coping mechanisms. In her Zoom stitchery classes, she certainly creates for her students an atmosphere of calmness, reinforcing concentration on the steady rhythm of the needlework – and total enjoyment of the creative moment.

To see works by these artists, visit the News Review Art Gallery at [greenbeltnewsreview.com/art-gallery](http://greenbeltnewsreview.com/art-gallery).

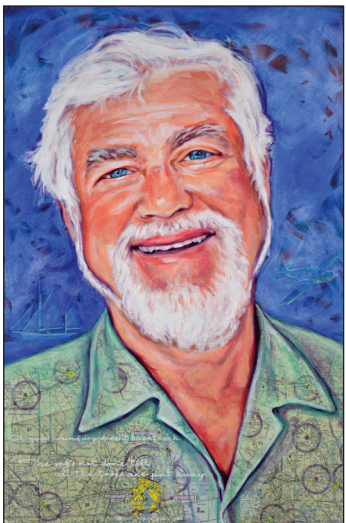


PHOTO BY SALLY DAVIES

Adventerous: A Portrait of Emmett Early by Sally Davies



PHOTO BY DERRICK EARLY

Sally Davies



PHOTO BY SALLY DAVIES

Labyrinth of Life by Sally Davies



Leah Cohen



- Photos by Leah Cohen



Embroidered heart felt bag by Leah Cohen



Geometric art by Leah Cohen

# GATe Again Airs “Taking Root,” A Film on Wangari Maathai

by Frank Gervasi

Wangari Maathai started a revolutionary movement that had enormous impact both in her own country and around the world. An award-winning film on her life, *Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai*, will be shown every day of the week starting Friday, March 19 on the GATe television channel or online at [greenbeltaccessstv.org](http://greenbeltaccessstv.org).

Maathai grew up in Kenya but came to the U.S. to study, where she earned both a bachelor’s and a master’s degree in science. She returned to Kenya and earned her Ph.D., becoming the first East African woman to achieve that. She eventually became chair of the biology department at the University of Nairobi. Still later, she was elected to Parliament with 98 percent of the vote.

Kenya had been denuded of its vegetation, its soil eroded from decades of timber exports, internal strife and intensive agriculture that included vast cash crop plantations. Maathai started the Green



PHOTO BY INTERNATIONAL GREEN BELT MOVEMENT

Wangari Maathai, founder of the Green Belt Movement.

Belt movement, which consisted of organizing poor people, mostly women and children, to collect local seeds and restore the forests. Her work ultimately earned her a Nobel Peace Prize, the first environmentalist and first African woman to be awarded one.

# School System to Phase Out Security, But Keep SROs

by Collin Riveillo

The Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS) Board of Education voted on March 1 in favor of the county’s Police Reform Task Force’s recommendation to keep School Resource Officers (SROs) and eventually phase out school security personnel. The board decision was the one recommended by PGCPS CEO Monica Goldson.

SROs are local police officers who are contracted by the school board through a Memorandum of Understanding and placed inside schools to monitor the safety of students and staff. They have crisis-intervention training and all the legal powers of a regular police officer. PGCPS contracts 66 SROs according to a report released by Goldson in January.

School security personnel are security guards employed by the county who see to students’ safety. They do not carry guns and only a few have arresting powers and in PGCPS, just 66 of the 211 personnel employed can arrest students.

This decision comes after months of debate on whether schools should have officers with guns near students.

In a survey sent out by Goldson, the community weighed in on the issue. Of the 13,000 respondents, 82 percent said that SROs are “very important” or “important.” Another 12 percent said the position was “somewhat

important.” Only 6 percent of respondents selected “not important.”

The recommendation also includes investment in mental health programs and restorative approaches to student discipline.

Shayla Adams-Stafford, a newly elected board member for District 4, voted against the recommendation. “As an educator for over a decade, I relied heavily on the school security guard in the school buildings to be the eyes and ears on the ground to know how we can support the students.”

Board Member Belinda Queen was in favor of the Police Task Force’s recommendation. “I feel that it’s a great recommendation,” she said.

The county’s next move is to construct a specific timeline and plan on how school security personnel will be phased out.

While Goldson supported the recommendation, the security issue is not clear cut. “I will say this as the CEO, and as a former principal of two schools and an assistant principal, there is value in all of our security staff that presented today and as well as our SROs. There’s no question about it, and the relationships that they establish with our students is a value.”

*Collin Riveillo is a University of Maryland student writing for the News Review.*

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